

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method for removing carbon monoxide from a hydrogen gas, comprising:

contacting said hydrogen gas which contains carbon monoxide with a catalyst for a water gas shift reaction said catalyst comprising at least platinum and rhenium, both supported on a metal oxide carrier.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9,
wherein said metal oxide carrier is selected from the group consisting of zirconia, alumina, titania, silica-magnesia, zeolite, magnesia, niobium oxide, zinc oxide and chromium oxide.

11. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell generation system, comprising:
a hydrogen gas which contains carbon monoxide in contact with a catalyst for a water gas shift reaction comprising at least platinum and rhenium, both supported on a metal oxide carrier so as to remove carbon monoxide from the hydrogen gas, ~~which is supplied to a fuel cell.~~

12. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 11,
wherein said metal oxide is at least one metal oxide selected from the group consisting of

zirconia, alumina, titania, silica, silica-magnesia, zeolite, magnesia, niobium oxide, zinc oxide and chromium oxide.

13. (Previously Presented) The method for removing carbon monoxide according to Claim 9, wherein an amount of said platinum is from 0.1% to 10% by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein an amount of said rhenium is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein said catalyst further comprises at least one metal selected from the group consisting of yttrium, calcium, chromium, samarium, cerium, tungsten, neodymium, praseodymium, magnesium, molybdenum and lanthanum supported on said metal oxide carrier.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein an amount of said metal is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of said metal oxide carrier.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein said catalyst has been subjected to water treatment at a temperature between 80 to 100°C.

19. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 11, wherein an amount of said platinum is from 0.1% to 10% by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 11, wherein an amount of said rhenium is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of said metal oxide carrier.

22. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 11, wherein said catalyst further comprises at least one metal selected from the group consisting of yttrium, calcium, chromium, samarium, cerium, tungsten, neodymium, praseodymium, magnesium, molybdenum and lanthanum supported on said metal oxide carrier.

23. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 22, wherein an amount of said metal is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

24. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to claim 11, wherein said catalyst has been subjected to water treatment at a temperature between 80 to 100 °C.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A carbon monoxide removing unit which contains a catalyst for a water gas shift reaction comprising at least platinum and rhenium, both supported on a metal oxide carrier,

wherein said catalyst is capable of contacting a hydrogen gas having an initial carbon monoxide concentration, thereby producing a hydrogen gas having a reduced carbon monoxide concentration compared to said initial carbon monoxide concentration.

27. (Previously Presented) The carbon monoxide removing unit according to claim 26, wherein an amount of said platinum is from 0.1% to 10% by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

28. (Previously Presented) The carbon monoxide removing unit according to claim 26, wherein an amount of said rhenium is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of the metal oxide carrier.

29. (Previously Presented) The carbon monoxide removing unit according to claim 26, wherein said catalyst further comprises at least one metal selected from the group consisting of yttrium, calcium, chromium, samarium, cerium, tungsten, neodymium, praseodymium, magnesium, molybdenum and lanthanum supported on said metal oxide carrier.

30. (Previously Presented) The carbon monoxide removing unit according to claim 29, wherein an amount of said metal is from 0.1 % to 10 % by weight based on a weight of said metal oxide carrier.

31. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein a carbon monoxide concentration of said hydrogen gas after contacting said catalyst is not larger than 1%.

32. (Previously Presented) The fuel cell generation system according to Claim 11, wherein a carbon monoxide concentration of said hydrogen gas which is supplied to said fuel cell is not larger than 1%.

33. (Previously Presented) The carbon monoxide removing unit according to claim 26, wherein a carbon monoxide concentration of said hydrogen gas after contacting said catalyst is not larger than 1%.

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THE BASIS FOR AMENDMENT

Claims 11, 18 and 24 have been amended as supported by Claims 11, 18 and 24 as originally filed. In addition, the amendment of Claims 18 and 24 is supported at page 16, line 20.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 9-13, 15-19, 21-24, and 26-33 will now be active in this application.

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THE INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Langel for his helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on December 1, 2003. The prior art rejections were discussed in view of the data presented in the attached Rule 132 Declaration which rebutt any possibly conceivable prima facie case of obviousness.